

LISTING OF AND AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for operating a computer system comprising:

having at least one content provider for providing content to a user coupled via a portal which may also be coupled to a user;

said at least one content provider offering a new content to the portal;

the portal comparing credentials of said at least one content provider with stored credentials of registered content providers; and

the portal accepting or rejecting at least a particular provider included in said at least one content provider based on said stored credentials; and

the portal checking the new content, and the portal accepting or rejecting the new content.

2. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising offering said credentials of said at least one content provider to the portal together with the new content.

3. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising storing said credentials of the registered content providers in a database of the portal.

4. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising performing automatically said comparison of the credentials with an intelligent program having a rule database.

5. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising performing manually said comparison of the credentials.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 [[6]] wherein the evaluation of the new content is performed semi-automatically or fully automatically.

8. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 [[6]] wherein the user is notified about the new content if the new content matches with preferences of the user.

9. (original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing operation of a computer system, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the steps of claim 1.

10. (currently amended) A computer system comprising at least one content provider for providing content to a user which is coupled to a portal which may be coupled to a user

wherein said at least one content provider comprises means for offering a new content to the portal, wherein the portal comprises means for comparing credentials of said at least one content provider with stored credentials of registered content providers, and wherein the portal comprises means for accepting or rejecting said at least one content provider; and checking means for the portal to check the new content; the portal accepting or rejecting the new content based on a determination of said checking means.

11. (original) The computer system of claim 10 wherein the portal comprises a database for registered content provider credentials.

12. (original) A computer system as recited in claim 10 wherein said at least one content providers, the portal and the user are coupled via the Internet.

13. (original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for causing operation of a computer system, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 1.

14. (original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing operation of a computer system, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable

program code means for causing a computer to effect the steps of claim 2.

15. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing operation of a computer system, the computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 10.

16. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing operation of a computer system, the computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 11.

17. (canceled).